

HR 5166

Armed Forces Voluntary Immunization and Heath Justice Act of 2004

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Sep 29, 2004

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health. (Oct 21, 2004)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/house-bill/5166>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Shays, Christopher [R-CT-4]

Party: Republican • State: CT • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Towns, Edolphus [D-NY-10]	D · NY		Sep 29, 2004
Rep. Ballenger, Cass [R-NC-10]	R · NC		Oct 7, 2004
Rep. McDermott, Jim [D-WA-7]	D · WA		Oct 7, 2004
Rep. Kucinich, Dennis J. [D-OH-10]	D · OH		Oct 8, 2004

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Armed Services Committee	House	Referred To	Sep 29, 2004
Veterans' Affairs Committee	House	Referred to	Oct 21, 2004

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Armed Forces Voluntary Immunization and Health Justice Act of 2004 - Prohibits requiring a member of the Armed Forces to participate in either of the smallpox or anthrax vaccine immunization programs of the Department of Defense. Permits administering either vaccine to any such member without the informed consent of the member.

Requires the correction of the records of servicemembers previously punished for refusing to take either vaccine.

Requires the Secretary of Defense to assess the current threat of an anthrax or smallpox attack on members of the Armed Forces and report the results.

Requires the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to: (1) carry out an ongoing assessment of the adverse health effects being reported by members and former members of the Armed Forces with respect to the smallpox and anthrax vaccines administered by the Department of Defense; and (2) prepare an estimate of the future cost to the Department of Veterans Affairs to treat those adverse health effects, if determined to be service-connected.

Requires the President to establish a National Center for Military Deployment Health Research to coordinate and synthesize research efforts by Federal departments and agencies relating to the health effects of military deployments on members of the Armed Forces, including members of the reserve components.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Oct 21, 2004:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.
- **Sep 29, 2004:** Introduced in House
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- **Sep 29, 2004:** Referred to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.
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